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SEEBACK COVER



SIGNING OF "THE UNANIMOUS DECLARATION OF THE THIRTEEN UNITED STATES OF AMERICA," July 4, 1776.

Trumbull's painting. John Hancock at table. Standing before him Franklin, Jefferson, Adams, Roger Sherman, Robt. R. Livingston, the Drafters.

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THE OLD STATE HOUSE IN THE DAYS OF THE REVOLUTION. View from the Northwest.
Erected 1732. The main centre of the city. The people are in Chestnut Street. Long shed at right was used as a shelter for visiting Indians.



INDEPENDENCE HALL, Chestnut Street, South Side, between Fifth and Sixth Streets.

Built 1732. State House till 1799. Restored 1833, 1898. Except tower, appears as in 1776. Birthplace of Declaration, Constitution, etc.



INDEPENDENCE HALL, from Independence Square. Walnut Street or Park side.

This much-frequented square is $4\frac{1}{2}$ acres in area; adorned with gorgeous flowers in spring. Declaration read here every July 4th.



Stairway - Independence Hall.

THE COLONIAL STAIRWAY. One of the Beauties of the Hall.

Little stairway at top leads to tower. Liberty Bell case at lower end of picture.



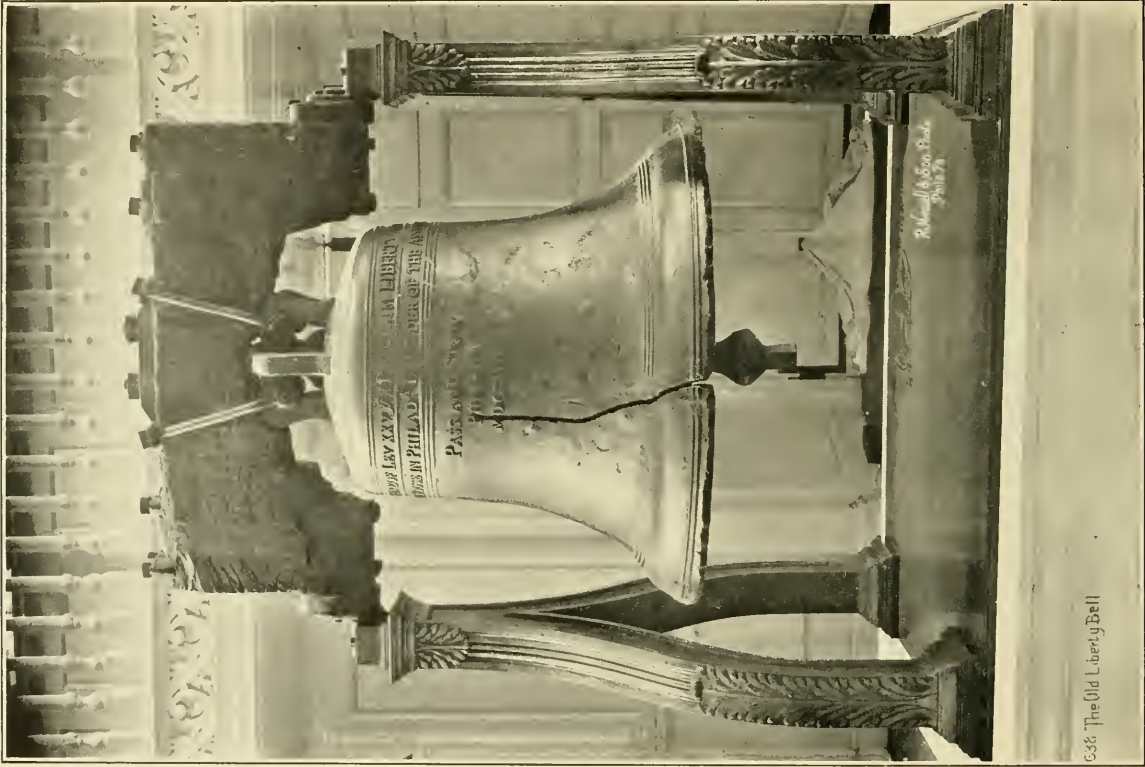
AN ARCH IN THE SUPREME COURT ROOM.

President of Continental Congress used the chair and table.



CHESTNUT STREET ENTRANCE.

An effective example of Colonial architecture.



638 The Old Liberty Bell

LIBERTY BELL. Kept in Glass Case, on Street Floor, in South Corridor.

Cast 1733. Cracked 1835, tolling for Chief Justice Marshall's death. 1,000,000 annual visitors.



THE EAST ROOM, on the Main Floor. Album for Autographs of Visitors at the Desk.
Provincial Assembly met here, 1735-1775. Declaration, Articles of Confederation and Constitution adopted here. Lafayette received, 1824.

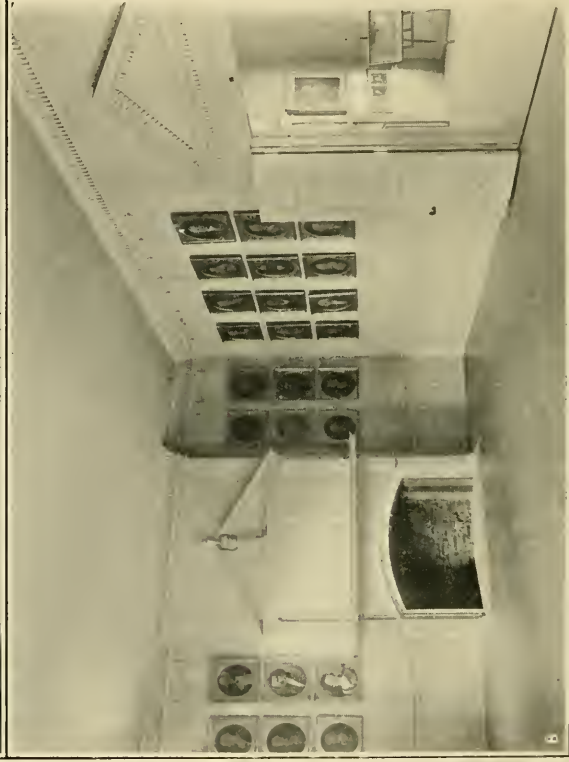


THE COUNCIL CHAMBER OF THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR.

First used by Governor Hamilton, in 1748. Later a part of the City Council Chamber. Restored.



THE BANQUETING ROOM, Second Floor Front. Restored to its appearance 150 years ago.
Governor Hamilton here gave State feasts on fitting public occasions. Peale's Museum, 1802. Later a part of the Council Chambers.



A. BANQUET HALL, Second Floor. For another view see preceding page.

B. GOVERNOR'S ROOM, Second Floor. Private Executive Chamber until 1800.



THE WEST ROOM, THE COURT ROOM. On the Street Floor.

The Supreme Court of the Province and the State met here, 1743-1774; Assembly, 1780-1790. Court Room till 1838.



THE LIBERTY BELL, on Truck starting for Charleston, S. C., Exposition, Jan. 4, 1902. At St. Louis in 1904.
The Bell went to Bethlehem, for safety, 1777; New Orleans Exposition, 1885; Chicago, 1893; Atlanta, 1895; Charleston, 1902; Boston, 1903.



PRINCE HENRY'S VISIT TO INDEPENDENCE HALL, March 10, 1902. View looking Westward on Chestnut Street.
The German Emperor's brother, escorted by First Troop City Cavalry, visited Independence Hall. Many kindred events take place.



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INDEPENDENCE HALL THE CRADLE OF LIBERTY

No building in America has so interesting an history as this sacredly preserved edifice on Philadelphia's main thoroughfare. If it were hallowed only by the remembrance that the Declaration of Independence, drafted in 1776 by Thomas Jefferson, was adopted and signed here, it would be the Mecca of every American; but here also were adopted that plan of union of the Colonies, although imperfect, suggested by Benjamin Franklin and made a fact by the Articles of Confederation, and the Constitution of the United States. Thus the three vital charters of the American national existence emanated from this hall.

Independence Hall, built 1732-1735, is generally considered a model of the beautiful Greek-motived colonial architecture, which here is seen in its most chaste development. In 1898 a committee appointed for the purpose by Mayor Charles F. Warwick, of Philadelphia, secured facts making possible the restoration of the building to its original form. This mainly concerned the interior, although the wings on either side are a part of the design. \$36,000 were spent on this work, which occupied a year.

Built originally as a State House for the Provincial Council of Pennsylvania, the structure has been used by the Provincial offices; later, during the Revolution, by the second Continental Congress; by the State Legislature; then by City Councils. For many years the lower floor was fitted up as a national museum and contained numerous relics connected with the history of the nation. Since the restoration of the building these valuable portraits have been exhibited in Independence Hall, and the relics, prints, etc., have been exhibited in the wings or small buildings at either side of the main hall.

In the hallway is the Liberty Bell, one of the dearest national relics.



"The old bell now is silent,
And hushed its iron tongue
But the spirit it awakened
Still lives, forever young;
And while we greet the sunlight
On the Fourth of each July,
We'll ne'er forget the bellman
Who, betwixt the earth and sky,
Rang out our Independence,
Which, please God, shall never die."

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